

## Business Notices.

**WILDER PATENT SALAMANDER SAFES.**  
 Another Victory for the celebrated  
 WILDER PATENT SALAMANDER SAFES.  
 The late fire at the residence of Mr. H. H. Wilder, at the corner of Broadway and South-st., destroyed the safes of the same name, which were the only ones of the kind in the city. The safes were of the latest and most improved construction, and were built by the late Mr. H. H. Wilder, who was the inventor of the same. The safes were of the latest and most improved construction, and were built by the late Mr. H. H. Wilder, who was the inventor of the same.

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## New-York Daily Tribune.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1856.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. What is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, and must be sent to the Editor, not to a committee. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

Subscribers, in sending us remittances, frequently omit to mention the name of the Post-Office, and very frequently the name of the State, to which their paper is to be sent. All names must be sent to the Post-Office and State.

## TO ADVERTISERS.

THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC FOR 1857 will be issued about Christmas, and we propose to devote a few pages of it to advertisements. Our sales last year were over 60,000 COPIES, and the demand this year will doubtless be much greater, as it will contain the returns of the late Presidential Election compared with former Elections. Merchants, Manufacturers, Inventors and others will find OUR ALMANAC a valuable MEDIUM FOR ADVERTISING. Price, per page, \$75; half page, \$40. Advertisements must be sent in before the 15th instant. Address GREELEY & McCLURE, Tribune Office.

The President's message will be found on the third page of this paper.

In the SENATE yesterday, after the reading of the Message, the usual motion to print that and other documents was made.

Mr. HALE (N. H.) replied to and denied the President's assumption that the men who voted for Fremont were unfaithful to the Constitution, or that they sought to usurp the power of the Government.

Mr. BROWN (Miss.) was glad that the President had sounded the alarm against sectionalism. Those who voted for Fremont intended to abolish slavery everywhere. Mr. Brown made a tilt at Senators Sumner and Wilson.

Mr. MASON (Va.) said slavery agitation had brought the people of the South to believe that the preservation of that institution rested with them alone. If Fremont's friends had carried out their views, it would have led to an immediate and final dissolution of the Union.

Mr. WILSON (Mass.) had never asserted the power of Congress to abolish slavery in the States, nor had he ever uttered the sentiment that those with whom he acted intended to assume such power.

Mr. BROWN replied, the South was not called upon to bear everything. Though unwilling to break up the Union, their self-respect might compel them to assert and maintain their right.

Mr. TRUMBULL (Ill.) denied that the Fremont party held the views charged upon them by Mr. Brown; they everywhere disavow such sentiments. The President's Message contained a most unwarrantable assertion bearing upon this matter.

The President says the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional. The Supreme Court sustains the power of Congress to legislate for the Territories; the power is broad and unqualified, and it is a new discovery to say that Congress does not possess it.

Mr. T. defended the Republicans from Mr. Mason's charge of hostility to the South, and showed that all they had done or proposed to do was in strict accordance with the Constitution. If they could not elect whom they chose in a lawful manner, then the Constitution carried within it the elements of its own destruction.

Without voting on the question to print the Senate adjourned.

In the HOUSE the entire session was consumed in debate upon the motion to reconsider the vote declaring Mr. Whitfield not entitled to the seat as Delegate from Kansas. No vote was taken.

It has been reported that the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury would be delivered along with the Message of the President, but on applying at the Collector's office yesterday, we were informed that the document was not yet complete and could not be supplied till to-day.

The Electoral College of the State met at Albany yesterday, but did not vote for President. That business will be done to-day.

The President in his Message tells the People what they have intended and what they have decided in the recent Presidential Election. It seems to us that this is a very unnecessary proceeding on his part—worse than carrying coals to Newcastle—since the People may be presumed to know what they have been about quite as well as he does.

And if it were true that the President, as Mr. Pierce says, "represents the aggregate population of the United States," then he ought to be chosen by a direct vote of that "population," and not through our arbitrary and complex machinery of Electoral Colleges, whereby a hundred voters in South Carolina are allowed equal weight with a hundred and fifty in New-York or Ohio. Under this machinery, a President may be chosen in defiance of a very large majority of "the aggregate population of the United States"; as we now see Mr. Buchanan the choice of a handsome majority of the Electors, though he lacks many thousands of receiving a majority of the votes of the People.

By the choice of this minority President, we are told, the People have asserted the constitutional equality of all the States as States and of all the citizens as citizens, as well as their unalterable devotion to the Union and the Constitution. In other days, an organ of the American People, and especially a Democratic organ, would have vaunted also the devotion of his constituents to the Rights of Man as Man; but Mr. Pierce is wisely silent on that head. The equality of States and of citizens, he says, has been maintained—not the equality of Men; the Constitution and the Union have triumphed; not the principles of Eternal Justice, nor of Human Freedom. "The rights of Human Nature," for which our Revolutionary fathers declared that they were brought into collision with the British Crown, are not within the purview of this Message; and the immortal assertion of the Declaration of Independence that "We hold that all men are created equal, and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," is a senseless farago of adjectives and verbs—a mere collection of "glittering generalities," according to Mr. Pierce. Surely his Message is no significant in its silence as to its assertions.

That the President has a right and is bound to lay before Congress all information essential to their intelligent action on public affairs, is conceded. But that he may, through the form of a statement to Congress, assail a large portion of the People as disloyal to the Union, forgetful of their constitutional duties, and treacherously hostile to their fellow-citizens, is not clear. The President accuses the Republicans of saying that they do not mean and meaning what they do not say—"pretending to seek only to prevent the spread of slavery into Territories," but really seeking something very different, and of denouncing all their fellow-citizens who do not unite with them in assailing the Constitution, &c. This is not the dictation suited to a grave public document—it is the slang of a reckless demagogue on the stump. It degrades the Presidential office, and will only serve to exasperate those whom it assails, misrepresents and defames. No man ever stood more self-condemned than Franklin Pierce, when, after having hurled at the objects of his malevolent abuse all the foul charges he could imagine, he finally accuses them of "unreasoning intemperance of thought and language." In fact,

many of his missiles rebound upon his own head, but one of them never will. In accusing the Republicans of being "ardently attached to Liberty in the abstract," he fires a shot which they cannot return. Neither in the abstract nor in the concrete does seem to cherish any more attachment to Liberty than would have befitted any of the Tory Governors of our Revolutionary era, who might have employed his general line of argument with very few adaptations of phraseology.

Having broadly arraigned the Republicans as disloyal and traitorous, Mr. Pierce turns a short corner and "confidently believes" that the great body of them "are sincerely attached to the Constitution and the Union." They will not thank him for this supererogatory certificate of good intentions, but despise alike the unfounded attack and the superfluous vindication.

It is strange that Mr. Cushing, or whoever was the concealer of this most discreditable Message, should have the hardihood to ignore the agency of Jefferson, Washington, Dane, John Randolph, the late Continental and first Federal Congress, in resistance to the Extension of Slavery, and pretend that the Missouri struggle of 1819-20 was the first in which this question was involved. There is a brazen hardihood, an absurd audacity, in this mode of treating a grave public question, in full view of the fact that the whole subject has been freshly discussed in almost every school-house of the States. There are Half a Million school-boys to-day in those States who could unanswerably convict the President of a dishonest suppression of material facts on this head. When a cause will not bear a statement of the whole truth, why cannot its champions perceive the wisdom of silence?

But Mr. Pierce proceeds to assume that the Missouri Compromise of 1820 was rendered void by the refusal of the North to extend it to newly acquired Territories in 1846-50? Is it possible that any man can believe this? Suppose two neighbors to own a tract in common, which they agree to divide by a certain arbitrary line, and their bargain is solemnly ratified and recorded. Thirty years afterward, they acquire another tract, lying just beyond the former; and one of them proposes that the tract be divided as that was. "No," replies the other; "I stand by that bargain, but I do not choose to make another such." "Then," says the former, "I repudiate the first compact, and shall proceed to wrest from you your share of the land divided under it." Is there a court anywhere that would sustain him in this course? Is there a lawyer, beside Franklin Pierce, who could be hired to appear as his advocate?

Mr. Pierce decides—against the authority of Washington and Jefferson—that Congress can impose no conditions on the States of the Union, whether existing in the present or in the future only—and he says the Supreme Court has made a similar decision. We do not know where to find that decision—but no matter: we will presume that the Court, as now constituted, would make any decision that the interests or pretensions of Slavery might require. But the question at issue does not necessarily involve the power of Congress over States. Congress has power expressly conferred on it to "make all needful rules and regulations respecting the Territory or other property of the Union;" and one of the most "needful" is a "rule" which guarantees to every resident on that Territory those rights to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," which the Declaration of Independence declares "inalienable." That is enough. Keep Slavery out of the Territories, and no question as to the right of Congress to prohibit it in States can ever arise.

But Mr. Pierce protests that he cannot see why the Missouri Compromise was not repealable like any other statute. The reason simply is that the advantages guaranteed by it to one party had already been realized, while those accruing to the other were just coming into view. The Slave States in 1820 said to the Free—"Let us have Missouri as a Slave State, and you may have all the Territory North and West of her for Free States." A few Northern members assented to the bargain, and it was ratified. The South had her consideration down; the North waited thirty-four years for most of hers. At the moment she put forth her hand to take it, it was snatched away by the Nebraska bill; and now Mr. Pierce can't see why this Missouri bargain should not be repealable like any other statute! Suppose a man had bought a farm of him for \$5,000, and, having fully secured the farm, should conclude to repudiate the bargain and not pay the \$5,000, could he see the impropriety of that maneuver?

But Mr. Pierce proceeds to wonder if Slave institutions have such superior vitality and inherent vigor that they will always carry a new Territory, in the absence of restriction. We answer, that depends partly on position, partly on the laws. A new Territory located just behind a large and populous Slave State, and only accessible through that State, with a large slaveholding and slave population on the immediate border, stands a very strong chance to be carried by Slavery. Mr. Caldwell (Dem.) of Pa. argued in the House last Winter that the very formation of Kansas proved that its framers intended it for a Slave State; and we think he was correct. But when to this is added the assumption that any slaveholder may carry Slavery into the Territory in question, and that no preponderance of Free-State sentiment can be rendered effective to shut or drive it out (which is the doctrine of nearly all the supporters of the Nebraska bill) then we do not see how Slavery can be kept out of any Territory unshielded therefrom by act of Congress and contiguous to a Slave State.

That is a pitiful spectacle which the President makes of himself in trying to prove that the repeal of the Missouri Restriction was not the cause of the troubles in Kansas—that they would have occurred at any rate. He knows better—every one knows better. If, as he pretends, the Restriction were unconstitutional, so much the less excuse for meddling with it. Had it been let alone, no blame would have rested on him who urged on the Congress which enacted its repeal. But he forced the measure through an unwilling House by appliances that were essentially bribery, and in defiance of earnest warnings of the evil that must inevitably follow. Now that we have experienced it, he would make us believe that it would have been all the same if the repeal had not taken place! Then why was that policy so vehemently pressed and insisted on? Mr. Pierce? you know that the troubles in Kansas have resulted directly from the repeal of the Missouri Restriction.

It is a study to see how power expands or contracts according to the exigency or pleasure of the wielder. Mr. Pierce can find no warrant for interference on his part to prevent wholesale frauds: voting by Missourians in Kansas, but want enough for enforcing and upholding the laws enacted by the beneficiaries of that fraud. But Mr. President, you need only not have interfered in the premises. Had you left Gov. Reeder in power, and

upheld his authority as you do Gov. Geary's, nothing more would have been required. But the moment your own Governor evinced a proper abhorrence of the Border-Ruffian fraud, you removed him and placed a mere tool of the enslavers of Kansas in his place. Had you simply kept hands off, Kansas would not now be under the feet of the Border Ruffians. Your acts, and not your failure to act, have made Kansas practically a Slave Territory and doomed her people to untold miseries.

Mr. Pierce tells that people that their wrongs will be redressed if they submit passively to the rulers inflicted on them by himself or his Border-Ruffian supporters. We do not trust him, but we hope the settlers of Kansas will give his fair words a trial. It is their best remaining chance. Let us, if the Border Ruffians will, have entire quiet in the Territory through the Session just opened, and see how far that will go toward securing a repeal of the obnoxious "laws" enacted for the subjugation of Kansas by the Ruffian Assemblage at Shawnee Mission. Let us give Mr. Pierce's friends the fullest opportunity to undo the heavy burdens they have bound upon Kansas, and the least possible excuse for evading this duty. This experiment fairly tried, we shall be ready to do what shall seem most urgent and feasible thereafter.

The President's review of our Foreign Relations is condensed and, in the main, satisfactory. We think our Government entitled to credit for its efforts to abolish the practice of capturing and plundering merchant vessels in time of war, by National as well as private cruisers. The view taken of this subject by Secretary Marcy is just, and must ultimately prevail. His resistance to the Mail exactions of New-Granada is also well grounded; but we are not so sure that the blame of the Panama Riots ought to be saddled on the natives. We rejoice to hear officially that a new Treaty, supplementary to the Clayton Bulwer, has been negotiated at London, and we feel confident that its provisions must be such as we can heartily approve. We think the President speaks unkindly of Mexico, but are glad that he meditates no hostile demonstration against her.

The President says the Postmaster-General's suggestion of an abolition of the Franking Privilege deserves the consideration of Congress. We can make that a good deal stronger and still heartily approve it. Messieurs Members of Congress! You have doubled your pay; now pay your own postage or leave it to be paid by your correspondents. Don't impose it on those who have not the honor of your acquaintance, for that is shabby and dishonest. Pay your own postage, straighten your crooked trails, and reduce your mileage into correspondence with the immensely increased facility and celerity of travel, and let the People see that you can be just to them as well as generous to yourselves. So shall your names be honored, and your exit from public life, unlike that of Pierce, be signalized by the respectful regard of your countrymen.

It appears from the Postmaster-General's Report that the number of Post-Offices in the Union on the 30th of June last was 25,662. Of these, 339 have an income of over \$1,000 per annum, and the Postmasters are appointed by the President, subject to the confirmation of the Senate. The total compensation of Postmasters was, for the last fiscal year, \$2,192,890. The number of mail-route contractors was 6,352; of mail agents, 334, and of mail messengers, 1,108. The mail was carried over 20,223 miles by railroad, over 14,351 miles in steamboats, over 29,453 miles in coaches, and over 153,915 miles by inferior conveyances. The cost of transportation for each mile traveled by, by railroad, 10.6 cents; by steamboat, 20.3 cents; by coach about 7 cents, and by inferior conveyances nearly 8 cents per mile. The total cost of mail transportation for the current year, including the salaries of agents and messengers, but excluding the ocean service, is \$6,576,128.

The Postmaster-General renews his complaint of the large amount paid to the Panama Railroad, amounting for the last fiscal year to \$141,308, and for the first quarter of the current fiscal year to \$44,308. He recommends an act limiting the amount to be paid for that service to \$50,000, and an appropriation of \$200,000 toward a semi-monthly mail, via Nicaragua and Tehuantepec, giving, with the Panama route, a weekly mail to California.

The total expense of the Department for the last fiscal year was \$10,405,286. The entire revenue, including the annual amount of \$700,000 for mail service rendered the Government, was \$7,620,821, showing a deficit of \$2,784,465, which considerably exceeds the average of the preceding three years.

The expenditures for the current year are estimated at \$10,658,678. The revenue at \$9,991,794. The abolition of the franking privilege is urged, or else that the Department be allowed to charge the Government the ordinary rates on franked matter; also the abolition of the fifty per cent deduction on the postage of periodicals paid in advance. With these changes, and the relief of the Department from the burden of the ocean mail service, the Postmaster-General thinks that his Department would support itself.

As to the ocean mail steamers, the Postmaster-General does not understand why some of them should not start from other ports than New-York. The obvious reason is that New-York is the center at once of our foreign and of our domestic traffic, and that so far as the support of the line depends upon passengers, New-York has decided advantages over all other ports.

The failures which the Postmaster mentions in case of the ocean mails carried from New-Orleans, are not much of an argument for diffusing the service.

The Secretary of the Interior complains bitterly of, and dilates at length upon, the immense amount of work he has to do, and the incongruous nature of the matters over which his jurisdiction extends. He protests against any further burdens being imposed upon his department, and evidently hints, though he says nothing directly on the subject, at the propriety of erecting a new Department or two to share his labors.

The surveys of public lands have progressed with rapidity; but of the seventeen millions nearly or quite ready for market, a large portion has been withdrawn from sale in consequence of the recent railroad grants, and cannot be restored for nine months or more.

The actual settlement clause in the graduation act seems to be almost universally neglected, and the Secretary appears to be of opinion that it might be dispensed with altogether.

There has also been a good deal of cheating in locating the Swamp lands; but the Secretary thinks that the shortest and easiest way will be to overlook all departures from law, and to confirm without question the selection made by the States interested.

The sales of land for cash the last fiscal year have been 9,227,878 acres for \$8,821,414. There have been located on military land warrants 8,392,490

acres. There have been selected under railroad locations about 15,680,000 acres, and confirmed to the States under the Swamp Land grant 6,036,000 acres. The public domain has thus been diminished to the extent of 32,328,000 acres. The sales for cash during the second and third quarters of the current calendar year were 2,000,065 acres for \$1,906,892.

The total sales for the four years past have been 30,935,174 acres for \$27,940,151; while, including military bonuses, swamp lands, and railroad grants, the total alienations amount to about 94,000,000 acres.

On the 30th of June last there were 13,932 pensioners, at a cost of \$1,360,694. In this department, too, many frauds are perpetrated, and the Secretary calls for additional power to strike from the lists the names of those who have ceased to be entitled as invalid pensioners.

The number of patents issued during the year is about 25,000.

The abuses of the Judiciary department are still far from cured, and the Secretary calls for new laws—which we doubt not are very much needed—to suppress the peculating spirit which prevails there.

The Indian Agents, too, the Secretary thinks, need looking after, and he suggests the appointment of a traveling agent to visit them and report on their proceedings.

There are now twenty Indian treaties before the Senate involving the cession of 122,000,000 acres of land for a consideration of about \$11,000,000. The Indians within our limits are estimated at about 300,000 souls. As we become more familiar with the more remote tribes, it is found that their numbers have in general been greatly exaggerated.

The Indian Department costs about \$2,600,000 annually. The Secretary evidently concurs in the opinion, so generally expressed by all who have impartially examined the subject, that it is in the aggressions of unprincipled white men that all our Indian wars take their origin. Under these circumstances he thinks the only policy that promises protection to the Indians is the system of colonization upon limited reservations—a policy which he represents as going on very favorably.

The very platform now presented to *The Herald* by THE TRIBUNE, as the embodiment of *Practical Unionism*, is so admirably drawn that in one paragraph it says that "Congress has sovereign power over the Territories," and in the next it says: "We deny the authority of Congress to give legal existence to Slavery in any Territory of the United States." Which of these two statements contains "THE TRIBUNE'S sentiment exactly?"

Answer.—Both of them. We hold that Congress has sovereign legislative power over the Territories, just as our Legislature has over this State; but sovereign power is not arbitrary, despotic, unlimited power; and our Legislature has no power to establish Slavery in this State, nor has Congress such power in the Territories.

Some people profess to see in the asserted power of Congress to prohibit Slavery a like power to admit or legalize it; but that does not follow. Our Legislature has power to forbid and punish murder; it has no right to shield and reward murder. In short, there is a "higher law," as *The Herald* will yet discern. Of that law, human legislation should be, but often is not, a true reflection.

We learn with infinite regret that Mr. SUMNER'S physicians have forbidden his return to Washington at present. His health is still feeble, and his speedy recovery from the injuries inflicted by the hand of a brutal assassin, cannot be expected. Meanwhile the organs of the trade in human beings continue to assail with calumnies and abuse this suffering Martyr of Liberty.

Mr. Mason of Virginia declared in the Senate yesterday that if Fremont had been elected, the South would have dissolved the Union. Isn't it time to leave off this nonsense? It was useful, perhaps, before the election, but it is now sadly out of place.

## FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, December 1, 1856.  
 When Congress assembled to-day all parties seemed to be satisfied with themselves, and not dissatisfied with their opponents. The Democrats were content with subdued rejoicing—the more candid confessing they had not quite yet recovered from a very different emotion. The Republicans looked proud and resolute—proud in the consciousness of power already exhibited, and resolute in the purpose to enhance it for a future occasion. The Fillmore faction alone was gloomy and silent. Such of them as had promised New-York by silent thousands were especially reserved. The Northern wing of that Grand Army, from the usefulness of their vases, might have been suspected of stealing black sheep. While the hand of good fellowship was passing about there was no congratulation for them—no comfort of a future day brighter than the paltry present. In other respects there